

Next Stage Programme



Rehabilitative Training Programme For People with Acquired Brain Injury (ABI)

*CARF Accredited
Brain Injury Specialty Programme
Home, Community and Vocational*

Objectives of the Next Stage Training Programme

- Focus on practical abilities and developing skills such as personal, life, social skills and skills that can be transferred to the workplace.
- Assist people living with ABI to increase levels of independence and participate socially and in the community.
- Provide training that is suited to each individual.
- Provide a safe and graded learning environment.
- Enhance previous skills and explore learning of new skills.
- Provide a work like structure to the daily routine.
- Provide educational support and computer training.
- Liaison and referral with various support organisations.
- Assist individuals in making informed choices about future training, educational and work options.

Programme Content

The Next Stage programme is delivered on a modular basis. Each trainee will participate in modules to meet their individual needs. There are 25 training modules which are grouped in the following 6 areas:

- Brain Injury Awareness and Management
- Personal and Social Development
- Life Skills Management
- Information Technology
- Educational and Project Support
- Vocational Assessment, Planning and Exploration

Training takes place in both individual and group formats, depending on the trainee's needs and the type of module.

Programme Duration and Times

Next Stage Programme

The programme duration on average is 6 to 9 months. However, this can vary as the programme is designed to meet the individual goals of the trainees. Trainees attend up to five days per week (30-hour week). **Hours: 9:30 am to 4:00 pm from Monday–Thursday, and 9:30 am to 1:00 pm on Fridays**

Administration Criteria

- Have a diagnosis of Acquired Brain Injury
- Be medically stable
- Be 18 years or older
- Be independent in all aspects of self-care (or have a carer)
- Be able to demonstrate insight and motivation into the benefits of training
- Demonstrate readiness and potential for development and greater functional independence
- Be able to work with minimum supervision
- Be able to engage in group training sessions
- Be able to retain information between training sessions
- Be able to co-operate with the instructor and other trainees
- Live within a reasonable travelling distance from the unit OR meet criteria for admission to the Corofin Millennium Lodge
- Be free from severe ongoing behavioural, psychiatric and/or substance abuse issues

Mission of the Next Stage Programme

To work in partnership with people with Acquired Brain Injury (ABI) by providing a high-quality and individualised training programme designed to assist each trainee to enable greater levels of independence, personal effectiveness and integration into the community to maximise their quality of life.

Programme Overview

The Next Stage rehabilitative training programme is a national service provider accepting referrals of people with ABI living throughout Ireland. While trainees will have a common disability, the effects of brain injury can vary. Therefore, our training programme is designed to meet their individual needs and goals in a client centred format.

Corofin Millennium Lodge

The Corofin Millennium Lodge provides accommodation for trainees who attend the programme and who live too far away from the unit to commute on a daily basis. There is a nominal night fee to use this service, which may be reimbursed from either the HSE or Department of Social and Family Affairs depending on eligibility requirements.

“The hospital kept me active, but the RTU helped me get my life back” Past RTU Trainee